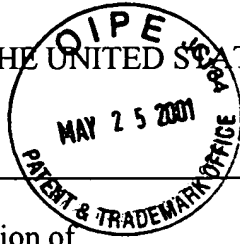


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



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MAY 31 2001

Group 2100

In Re Application of  
Pennell, et al.

Serial No. 09/437,812

Filing Date: November 10, 1999

For: A Web Based Email Control Center

Examiner: Unknown

Group Art Unit: 2756

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Before consideration of the instant application, please make the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at **page 2, line 20** with the following **2 (two)** rewritten sequential paragraphs:

-- Visiting multiple web sites to check news, obtain stock quotes, examine retail orders, or book travel plans, can be cumbersome and repetitive. Retrieving information from multiple accounts is time consuming. Moreover, many sites require a user to provide personal information, such as his name, address, credit card number, and email address. Providing such information also raises privacy concerns and opens the door for unsolicited emails directed to the user. A user visiting certain web sites may be reluctant to either provide their email address or provide a fake email address.

05/29/2001 EABUBAK1 00000073 050150 09437812

01 FC:202 400.00 CH  
02 FC:203 567.00 CH